



FRIENDS OF ALALAY (SANTA CRUZ)

Registered charity no. 1123425

SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

I've so much to report this time that I don't think that I'll be able to get it all into my one-page newsletter and some will need to wait until the next one!



panettone

The sale of panettone in Bolivia at Christmas was an enormous success and, apart from making a profit of around £8,000, it provided great publicity for Alalay and our work with the street kids. The sweet bread was advertised on radio, TV and social media, and sold by 150 volunteers in offices, markets, churches and on the streets – in fact Alalay panettone at Christmas is now becoming a bit of an institution in some parts of Bolivia!

Additionally we managed to sell almost every one of our Christmas cards, handmade by the children – so a sincere thank you to all those who bought them.

We've now raised enough money to fund the immediate and complete renovation of the Boys' Welcome House, which means that our "act of faith" has paid off and work is now well underway.

In addition, this year we are continuing to pay for the education and vocational training of a number of students and I hope to tell you a little more about progress with that work in the next newsletter.



work on the Boys' Welcome House



Darleny

As I have said many times, house parents are enormously important to helping the kids to lead normal lives and we continue to support Darleny, one of the house mothers. Here is a quote from a recent email from her, "one of my greatest satisfactions is to see 'my girls' graduating from High School as lovely and confident young women". I might add that these are girls who would otherwise have undoubtedly lived and died on the streets, with little chance of happy and fulfilling lives.

It has always been our policy to never publicly name our many supporters – ranging from a Primary School child (who gave me her 20 pence pocket money after I spoke at her school) through to individuals and organisations who have loyally supported us over the last 13 years, often with standing orders – but please know that I am enormously grateful.

I'm often asked how much we've managed to raise in total for the street kids and the answer is that, thanks to your great generosity, we have raised around £250,000. Every penny of this has gone directly to help the children to help themselves and nothing on administration.

Annie Syrett, Bristol – April 2019

www.alalay.co.uk